



Blake Trask, Chair
Max Hepp-Buchanan, Vice Chair
Ann Boyd
Allegra Calder
Jodi Connolly
Matthew Crane
Sean Cryan
Gabe Grijalva
Kelsey Jones-Casey
Neal Komedal
Anna Telensky
Jean White

Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: January 5, 2011 / 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Chair: Blake Trask
Recorder: Max Hepp-Buchanan
Location: Seattle City Hall, L280

Minutes Distribution List:

See Attachment A

Members Present:

Ann Boyd; Jodi Connolly; Sean Cryan; Gabe Grijalva; Max Hepp-Buchanan (Vice Chair); Kelsey Jones-Casey; Neal Komedal; Blake Trask (Chair); Jean White

Members Absent:

Allegra Calder; Matthew Crane; Anna Telensky

Guests:

Ken Lee, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT); Jamie Cheney, Commute Seattle; Jessica Szelag, Commute Seattle; Zachary Howard, Commute Seattle; Ann Sutphin, SDOT; Sandra (Sam) Woods, SDOT; Doug Cox, SDOT; Eugene Wasserman, North Seattle Industrial Alliance; Jim Hunt, Kirkland Resident; Jessica Lisiewski, Seattle Resident; Aili LePard, Seattle Resident

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Blake Trask.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Members of the public:
 - Aili LePard stated that bicycle access to through the construction areas on the South Viaduct should be a continuing focus of SDOT. The east side of the lower West Seattle Bridge has become a pinch point and a danger area for cyclists as more traffic is rerouted through the area.
 - Jim Hunt of Kirkland mentioned that he is producing a Google Map of existing bike racks in Kirkland, which can be accessed at www.cbcspeaks.org.

PRESENTATIONS

Time: 6:10 p.m.

Topic: Airport Way South Viaduct Over Argo Railroad Yard Rehabilitation Project

Presenters: Ken Lee, SDOT

Purpose: Provide a briefing on construction impacts and detour options for cyclists

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor, and all departments and offices of the city on matters related to bicycling, and the impacts which actions by the city may have upon bicycling; and shall have opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the city's planning processes insofar as they relate to bicycling.

-City Council
Resolution 25534

Findings / Critical Points:

- The Airport Way South Viaduct is a vital link in the freight mobility network. It has an average daily travel (ADT) of 13,600 trips and serves three King County Metro bus routes.
- The project was funded through the Bridging the Gap (BTG) levy.
- Plans for the construction include replacement of the north and south timber approach structure with a mechanically stabilized earth wall structure. There will also be ground improvements to address poor soil conditions.
- Full replacement of the bridge would be too costly, so this is a retrofit project.
- There are no bike lanes planned for the retrofit, as the existing steel girders will not be replaced.
- There are two automobile travel lanes in each direction; the outside lane is 11 feet wide and the inside lane is 10 feet wide.
- The project is currently at 100 percent design completion and has a construction window of one year.
- SDOT conducted outreach (email blasts and fliers) at 30 percent and 60 percent design completion. SDOT's outreach efforts drop off at 90 percent design completion.
- There will be full closure of the bridge during construction and congestion of detour routes will be monitored throughout the process.
- Detour plan for bridge closure:
 - Localized (automobile) detour route on 4th Ave S
 - Bike detour (north to south): east on S Lander St or S Spokane St, south on 1st Ave S, and west on S Lucile St
 - No bike detour route proposed for 4th Ave S
 - Sidewalk improvement planned for S Lucile St, including curb ramps
 - Contractor required to provide mitigation treatments to the detour route before the viaduct can be closed
 - Mitigation also to include detour signage for cyclists

SBAB Comments/Questions:

- Q: Could sidewalks be built out on the sides of the bridge? A: Possibly, but would involve working with the railroad yard, which has Federal regulations on that type of construction.
- Q: Could sharrows be added to the new bridge? A: No. The lanes are too tight and there is too much truck traffic, though further study of the bridge is indicated in the Bicycle Master Plan (BMP).
- Q: Why not route cyclists onto 4th Ave S as opposed to 1st Ave S? A: Cyclists may try to use 4th Ave S but should ride on the sidewalk due to safety concerns.
- SBAB has some concerns with cyclists trying to use 4th Ave S as a detour route when there are no mitigations for cyclists planned by SDOT on that corridor.
- SBAB would like to engage with SDOT at earlier stages of design in order to provide the most useful, timely, and relevant feedback on construction projects.

SBAB Recommendations:

- SBAB recommends that addition of outwardly expanded sidewalks be studied for possible future retrofit to the bridge.
- SBAB recommends a further study of the bicycle detour route, including a possible rerouting of cyclists onto 4th Ave S and that SDOT conduct a bikeability tour of the proposed bicycle detour.

Action Item or Follow-Up:

- Ken Lee will send additional detour information to SBAB for further review.

- SBAB will review detour plans and follow-up with additional comments/concerns to Ken Lee and SDOT by the end of January 2011.
 - SBAB will embark on efforts to establish a protocol with SDOT concerning upcoming construction projects in an effort to provide feedback at 30 percent design phases.
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Time: 7:00 p.m.

Topic: Commute Seattle's Bicycle Parking Inventory

Presenter: Jamie Cheney and Zachary Howard, Commute Seattle

Purpose: Provide SBAB with an update on the bicycle parking inventory project

Findings / Critical Points:

- Commute Seattle's bike program goal is to generate or attract 6,000 daily bike commuters.
- The purpose of the study is to determine if there is enough bike parking capacity in downtown businesses to accommodate the desired number of commuters.
- Commute Seattle is at 100 percent completion of the study area of 1,943 parcels in the Center City.
- There 1,152 buildings in the Center City, 258 (22.4 percent) of which have some form of bike parking.
- There is an existing potential of 6,342 bicycle parking spaces businesses within the Center City, 5.6 percent of which is "diminished", or missed opportunities.
 - 6,342 is the existing condition but will deteriorate and reveal gaps under further analysis
- The actual number of bike parking available in businesses within the Center City is 5,987 bicycle parking slots.
- Bike parking by grade:
 - A-grade: 4,148 (69.3 percent)
 - B-grade: 1,591 (26.6 percent)
 - C-grade: 248 (4.1 percent)
- A-, B-, and C-grade parking do not include added amenities of showers and lockers.
- Other amenities include:
 - Buildings with showers: 110 (9.5 percent)
 - Buildings with lockers: 82 (7.1 percent)
- Next steps include a neighborhood level analysis and a geographic analysis. The final report and strategic plan will be complete in May of 2011.

SBAB Comments/Questions:

- SBAB thanks Commute Seattle for its good work.
- Q: Was there any effort to count actual bicycles? A: There is a noted benefit to counting parked bicycles but parking capacity was the main concern with available resources.
- Q: Was there any data collected on businesses that allow bikes in offices? A: That data was collected only when offered – 86 buildings surveyed have no racks but allow bikes in office spaces.

Action Item or Follow-Up:

- Commute Seattle will follow-up with SBAB regarding identified gaps, the final report, and the strategic plan.
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Time: 7:40 p.m.

***Topic:* SDOT Update**

Presenter: Doug Cox and Sam Woods, SDOT

Purpose: Update SBAB on SDOT's plans for BMP implementation in 2011

Findings / Critical Points:

- In 2011, 15 miles of new on street facilities will be designed (instead of a proposed 20 miles). This brings the total to just over 30 miles in 2011, about half of which are remnants of 2010 projects.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

- Blake Trask adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

ATTACHMENT A

January Meeting Minutes Distribution List:

Michael McGinn, Mayor, City of Seattle

Rebecca Deehr, Strategic Advisor for Policy and Outreach, Office of the Mayor

City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen, Transportation Committee Chair

Peter Hahn, Director, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)

Sam Woods, Manager, Bicycle, Pedestrian & Neighborhood Program & Project Development, SDOT

Diane Sugimura, Director, Department of Planning and Development (DPD)

Bernie Agor Matsuno, Interim Director, Department of Neighborhoods (DoN)

Doug Cox, Assistant Transportation Planner, SDOT Liaison

Eric Widstrand, Traffic Operations Manager, SDOT

Meeting Presenters: Ken Lee, SDOT; Jamie Cheney and Zachary Howard, Commute Seattle

City of Seattle Council Transportation Committee Members

City of Seattle Neighborhood District Coordinators

Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board (SBAB) Board Members

Individual Meeting Attendees